

LIFE OF
PETER

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Course Goals

- To understand the scope and source of Peter's character transformation
- To imitate Peter's growth in Christ-like character
- To prepare to defend a scriptural view of Peter's role and authority in the early church

Schedule of Lessons

Date	Lesson
Sunday, Sept 20	1 – Meeting the Master
Wednesday, Sept 23	2 – A Weekend with Jesus
Sunday, Sept 27	3 – Peter Among the Apostles
Wednesday, Sept 30	4 – Who Jesus Is and What He Came to Do
Sunday, Oct 4	5 – Peter at the Transfiguration
Wednesday, Oct 7	6 – The Last Supper and Crucifixion
Sunday, Oct 11	7 – Begotten Again by the Resurrection
Wednesday, Oct 14	8 – Using the Keys to the Kingdom
Sunday, Oct 18	9 – Confronting the Jewish Leadership
Wednesday, Oct 21	10 – Preaching in Judea and Samaria
Sunday, Oct 25	11 – Preaching to Gentiles
Wednesday, Oct 28	12 – Peter's Sufferings
Sunday, Nov 1	13 – Peter on Suffering and False Teaching

Lesson 1
Meeting the Master

Objectives

- Explain how Peter met Jesus and found out who He was
- Name at least 3 events in Jesus' early public ministry that Peter witnessed
- List at least 3 of Peter's relatives mentioned or named in the Gospels

Text Questions

1. Find the following biographical details about Peter from the New Testament:
 - a. Birth name:
 - b. Known family members:
 - c. Hometown:
 - d. Occupation:
 - e. Known friends and/or business associates:
 - f. Attitude and obedience to the Old Law:

2. Meeting Jesus in Bethany beyond Jordan (Bethabara), **John 1:29-51**
 - a. How did John the Baptist designate Jesus to his two disciples?
 - b. One of the two is named:_____. Who likely was the other?
 - c. Whom did Andrew go and find? What does this suggest about his connection with John the Baptist?
 - d. What did Andrew say about Jesus?
 - e. What new Aramaic name did Jesus give to Simon? In Greek? What is the meaning of the name?
 - f. What did Jesus decide to do the next day?
 - g. What other men did Jesus contact before leaving Jordan? Where were they from?

3. Wedding Feast at Cana in Galilee, **John 2:1-11**
 - a. How many days passed between their departure from Bethany and the wedding feast? Try to determine how far they travelled.
 - b. Who were with Jesus at the wedding feast?
 - c. How did Jesus solve the problem of insufficient wine at the feast?
 - d. What was the reaction of the disciples?

4. Other Early Experiences, **John 2:12-4:54**

- a. Where did Jesus, His family, and His disciples go for a few days?

- b. Scan **John 2:13-4:42** and list experiences the disciples had with Jesus on His journey to Jerusalem.
 - i. John 2:13-22 (especially vs. 17)
 - ii. John 2:23
 - iii. John 3:1-21
 - iv. John 3:22
 - v. John 4:1-3
 - vi. John 4:4-41

Additional Notes

When everyone returned to Galilee, the early disciples seem to have gone back to their usual lives. There is no indication that the disciples were with Jesus when He:

- Returned to Cana and healed the Nobleman's son (**John 4:46-54**)
- Visited Nazareth and was rejected in the synagogue (**Luke 4:16-30**)

Thought Questions

1. What are some reasons Peter might have been so ready to believe in and follow Jesus as the Messiah? What are some conclusions we can draw about Peter's family background and personal faith from these actions?

2. What other Bible figures are renamed by God? What comparisons can you draw from their stories to the future life of Peter?

3. How can reconstructing the life and personality of Peter help us in our spiritual growth? Related to that, what do you hope to gain from this study?